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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

28 August 4, 2015

PATRICK OGAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

August 04, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**RECOMMENDATION TO PURCHASE
SPECIALIZED INVESTIGATORS' BASIC COURSE CERTIFICATION TRAINING
FOR WELFARE FRAUD INVESTIGATOR TRAINEES
(ALL DISTRICTS - 3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) seeks approval to purchase Specialized Investigators' Basic Course (SIBC) certification training, for Welfare Fraud Investigator Trainees (WFIT) from community colleges or local law enforcement agencies which are authorized by the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS or designee to purchase SIBC certification training for approximately 34 WFIT employees of DPSS at a cost of \$6,070 per trainee from Coast Community College District/Golden West College (Golden West), for an estimated total cost of \$206,380. The approval of County Counsel as to form will be obtained prior to purchasing services.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS or designee to purchase SIBC certification training, as needed, from POST-authorized community colleges or local law enforcement agencies, to meet the ongoing training needs of the Department. The Director of DPSS or designee will notify the Board and Chief Executive Office within ten business days after purchase of the training.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

State law requires that as a condition of employment, all persons in the State of California, hired,

promoted or appointed to the position of Welfare Fraud Investigator (WFI) on or after January 1, 2001 must take and successfully complete SIBC training authorized by the POST Commission within one year of hire, promotion or appointment.

Currently, Golden West is the only qualified agency that provides specific SIBC training authorized by the POST Commission that is available in the State of California. For more than 10 years, Golden West has maintained a reputation for excellence in instruction and in meeting the needs of its students as well as the law enforcement community. Golden West has provided SIBC training for DPSS Welfare Fraud Prevention and Investigation employees since 2002.

DPSS has 19 newly hired WFITs who must complete SIBC training prior to February 2016, in order to be promoted to the WFI position. The Department anticipates that another 15 WFITs will be hired who will need training during FY 2015-16.

Board approval of the recommended action will enable DPSS to obtain POST-authorized SIBC training for newly hired WFITs from Golden West.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal #1: Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability: Maximize the effectiveness of the process, structure, operations and strong fiscal management to support timely delivery of customer-oriented and efficient public service.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The estimated cost of the seventeen-week SIBC training for 34 WFIT's is \$206,380, funded with federal and State revenues and the net County cost. The cost of this training will be allocated as follows: 65% federal revenue, 26% State revenue, and 9% net County cost. Sufficient funding for the initial SIBC course is included in the DPSS FY 2015-16 Budget. Any funding for future sessions will be identified and designated, as needed. Funding for future years will be included in the Department's annual budget requests.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Golden West will administer SIBC training following the guidelines outlined by the POST Commission. Training must be completed over 17 consecutive weeks, provide the minimum of 680 course hours, and cover 38 Learning Domains. The Learning Domains include, but are not limited to, training in firearms proficiency, role-play scenarios, arrest and control, physical fitness, investigative case management, and surveillance.

The Internal Services Department performed a competitive bid process for SIBC training, however, no bids were received. The Department subsequently learned that SIBC training can only be provided with authorization from the POST Commission. Golden West could not submit a bid because they are not permitted to provide SIBC training courses without the express authorization from the POST Commission.

The California Department of Social Services regulations permit the County to contract by negotiation with public educational agencies, such as Golden West. Golden West will be

compensated at a rate of \$6,070 per student. Golden West has authorization from the POST Commission to proceed with accepting reservations from local law enforcement agencies including Los Angeles County's WFIT, for the course slated to begin in August.

Golden West is in compliance with all Board, CEO, and County Counsel requirements. County Counsel approved this Board letter.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended action will permit the County to attain required SIBC certification of WFIT employees, as required by State law.

The recommended action will not infringe on the role of the County in relationship to its responsibility to its residents, and the County's ability to respond to emergencies will not be impaired. There is no change in risk exposure to the County.

CONCLUSION

The Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, is requested to return one adopted stamped Board letter to the Director of DPSS.

Respectfully submitted,



SHERYL L. SPILLER

Director

SLS:p hs

c: Interim Chief Executive Officer
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Interim County Counsel